Talking about your research at job interviews

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• Who, what, where, when, why, how of
  – the institution
  – the department
  – you
General Fit: how do university, department, position, you, converge?

• What exactly is the position advertising?

• How does my work relate to the advertised position?

• What most excites me about this position?
General Fit

• How do I see myself contributing to:

  – Mission of Institution
  – Institutional Collaborations / Centers
  – Mission of Department
  – Department
  – Community
Narrowing the Research

• Department
  – general demographics (faculty & students)
  – convergences, affinities, gaps
Hero narrative (“filling the gap”)

Top Three Things I can offer the institution/department:

1.

2.

3.
The other hero narrative

Top Three Things this institution can offer me:

1.
2.
3.
General Profile / Brand

Locate yourself in the field / discipline:

• What are my overall strengths?
• What are the areas in general that I need to develop?
• If my CV were in a stack of 200, how would the committee refer to me? (the xyz person)
Talking about Research

• What am I working on right now?

• How does it contribute to the field?

• What would I hope a non-specialist would take away from reading my research?
Talking about Research

• What is my next project (3-5 years)?

• What is a longer-term project?

• Remember GENERAL FIT:
  – RU/VH (R1) = how will I significantly contribute to / shape the field? connect to graduate and undergraduate students?

  – SLA (Small Liberal Arts) & Regional Comprehensive = how will my research connect to undergraduate students? contribute to / shape the field?
Talking about Research

• Whose work has been the most influential in the development of my own project?

• Who are the best people in my field?

• What are my strengths as a researcher?
Talking about Research

• Where do I plan to publish?

• Where do I plan to seek external grant funding?